(c) and (e) According to information available with CEA, the comparative power unit cost of electricity in respect of nuclear, thermal and hydro power for the year 2006-07 in the country is given below:

Type	(Paise/Kwh)
Nuclear*	228.00
Thermal	197.99
Hydro	127.13

*As informed by Department of Atomic Energy.

(d) As informed by the Department of Atomic Energy (Power Section), the Integrated Energy Policy of the Government of India envisages reaching a nuclear power capacity of 63,000 MW by the year 2032

Coverage of APDRP and RGGVY in Assam

277. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of implementation of the sub-transmission and distribution network in three districts of Assam, under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) and Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidhyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY);

(b) whether the entire area of Assam is yet to be covered under these programmes;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) if not, the status thereof;

(e) whether the Ministry has received any proposal from the State Governments, especially from Assam, for rural electrification; and

(f) if so, the present status of its clearance, implementation target set and allocation made for the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (f) Government of India had sanctioned 15 projects amounting to Rs. 650.73 crore under investment component of Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) to Assam, out of which APDRP component to be borne by Government of India is Rs. 601.54 crore. Government of India had already released Rs. 596.23 crores. State of Assam has utilised Rs. 532.58 crores so far. Projects sanctioned under APDRP cover the districts *viz.* Barpeta, Bongaigaon, Dhemaji, Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Kamprup (Metro), Kamprup (Rural), North Cachar Hills, Hailakandi, Jorhat, Karimganj, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, Darang, Marigaon, Nagaon, Sibsagar, Cachar and Tinsukia. The Government have approved the continuation of APDRP during the Eleventh Five Year Plan with revised terms and conditions as a Central Sector Scheme. The focus of the programme is on actual, demonstrable performance in terms of loss reduction. Projects under the scheme are to be taken up in Two Parts. Part-A is to include the projects for establishment of baseline data and IT applications for energy accounting/ auditing

and IT based consumer service centers. Part-B includes regular distribution strengthening projects. The scheme is being operationalised by Ministry of Power.

Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), Government of India has sanctioned all the projects of 23 districts of Assam with an outlay of Rs. 1660.35 crore. The implementing agency in 7 districts namely Cachar, Dibrugarh, Hailakandi, Karimganj Kokrajhar, Sibsagar and Sonitpur to Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) and the implementing agency in balance 16 districts is Assam State Electricity Board. The implementing agencies have reported that works have been carried out in 192 un-electrified villages besides intensification works carried out in 280 already electrified villages as on 16.09.2008. The electricity connections have been provided to 1360 BPL households as on 16.09.2008. Year-wise allocation of funds under RGGVY has not been envisaged as funds are released in instalments commensurating with the progress reported by the implementing agencies and fulfillment of the conditionalities stipulated in the RGGVY guidelines/sanction letters. Under RGGVY, the Assam State has availed Rs.133.60 crore as on 16.09.2008.

Loss due to release of water from Ranganadi Hydro Electric Plant

278. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has made any high level enquiry on the devastation in Lakhimpur district of Assam due to sudden release of water from Ranganadi Hydro Electric Plant Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government has fixed any responsibility on such utter negligence of authorities, causing death and misery to lakhs of people; and

(e) whether any compensation has been paid by NEEPCO to the affected people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) The Ranganadi Hydro Electric Project 405 MW (3x135 MW) developed by NEEPCO on the River Ranganadi in the State of Arunachal Pradesh is run-of-river scheme with a very small pondage. It may be mentioned that a maximum discharge of only 160 Cumec of water can be utilized for generation of power which is eventually diverted from Ranganadi river to the Dikrong through tailrace channel.

Due to heavy rainfall in the catchment areas of the River Ranganadi in the evening on 13th June, 2008 the inflow of water in the River increased to the tune of approx. 428 Cumec at 2.45 AM on 14th June, 2008 and to approximately 2120 Cumec at 5.10 AM. The huge inflow (*i.e.* flash flood) could not be stored in the small reservoir of Ranganadi (5.7 Cum. Capacity), and therefore, had to be passed downstream through the spillway meant for this purpose.

It may be mentioned that water from the project after generation is released into the Dikrong river and only the excess water is allowed to pass through in the main Ranganadi river. The flood